Ohio Aquatic Invasive Species Committee

Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (S. 168)

Thomas Rayburn

Director of Environmental and Regulatory Affairs

Lake Carriers' Association

November 29, 2017

VIDA - OVERVIEW

Most current version: March 30, 2017

22 Co-sponsors including three Great Lakes senators

Voted out of CST Committee

Included in S. 1129 – USCG Reauthorization as Title VIII

"Discharge Incidental to the Normal Operation of a Commercial Vessel"

Ballast water

"Existing Ballast Water Regulations"

803(a)

 Any regulation issued pursuant to Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 remain in effect until new regulations are finalized

"Ballast Water Discharge Requirements"

804(a)(1)(A)

Discharges using BATEA to meet discharge standard or off-vessel options

804(a)(2)(A)

- Codifies ballast water exchange for "salties"
- Comply with 33 CFR 151, Subpart C, Great Lakes provisions

804(b)(1)

• All commercial vessels are covered that carry ballast water in U.S. waters

804(b)(2)

Vessels exempted from meeting a specific discharge standard include:

- Uses a continuous flow-through system
- Discharges only potable water per Safe Drinking Water Act
- Operates in a "Geographically Limited Area"

"Review of Ballast Water Discharge Standard"

805(a)

• Effectiveness Review

805(a)(2)

January 1, 2022 and every 10 years thereafter

805(a)(3)(A)

 State petition process to request a review when new information indicates a revision to discharge standard that could reduce introduction of aquatic nuisance species

805(a)(3)(B)

States may petition as often as every two years

"Review of Ballast Water Discharge Standard"

805(b)

Practicability Review

805(b)(1)

- USCG in consultation with U.S. EPA determines if a ballast water management system is capable of achieving proposed standard (economics/operation)
- Testing protocols can assure accurate measure of compliance

805(b)(2)

USCG verify:

- Capability of systems to meet new standard
- Effectiveness and reliability of those systems
- Compatibility with vessels on which they will be used
- Commercial availability
- Safety of the systems

"Review of Ballast Water Discharge Standard"

805(c)

Discharge Standard Revision

805(c)

USCG in consultation with U.S. EPA will revise the discharge standard when

- A ballast water management system is capable of meeting the new standard and is economically achievable and operationally practicable
- Testing protocols can assure measurement of compliance

"Review of Ballast Water Discharge Standard"

805(d)

• Effective Date and Compliance Deadline

805(d)(1)

New ballast water discharge standard must take effect within three years

805(d)(5)

Ballast water management systems can remain in use as long as they are functioning even after a new standard is set unless the:

- Service life of the system is expired
- Vessel is taken out of service (no transferring systems)
- Vessel undergoes "a major conversion" (definition of "constructed")

OTHER SECTIONS

807

 Vessels can discharge to off-vessel facilities for the treatment of their ballast water

808

• States' requirements for discharges incidental to the normal operation of a commercial vessel remain in place until new regulations are published

810

• States can enforce compliance

811

• Preempts states from regulating ballast water discharges and discharges incidental to normal operations of a commercial vessel

QUESTIONS?

